

# Background

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EPA, Region 9, has recently initiated a regional program to help municipalities, redevelopment agencies, and community development corporations redevelop contaminated parcels in their communities. Under this program, EPA is conducting “Targeted Site Assessments” at Brownfields sites in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and on tribal lands. A Brownfields site is a vacant or under-used industrial or commercial facility where redevelopment is complicated by actual or perceived contamination. Brownfields Targeted Site Assessments will minimize the uncertainties surrounding the actual or perceived contamination associated with these sites. This fact sheet describes who is eligible and the procedures for applying for assistance through this program.

## Who is Eligible?

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EPA is offering Targeted Site Assessments to public or nonprofit entities (e.g., municipalities, redevelopment agencies, and community development corporations) that currently have redevelopment plans for property that is known or suspected to be contaminated. Each public or nonprofit entity should identify, in its application, a specific site that it owns or can obtain ownership of through some other means (e.g., tax foreclosure). If the site is not owned by the public or nonprofit entity, the site should be “abandoned.” An abandoned site, for the purposes of this program, is one in which the current owner has shown no interest in the property, has not paid taxes on the property, and does not have the resources to conduct the required site assessment work. This program is not intended to help private parties assess or clean up their sites for redevelopment. The site must be contaminated or suspected to be contaminated with hazardous substances. Sites contaminated only with petroleum products are not eligible for EPA assistance under this program.

# What is a Brownfields Targeted Site Assessment?

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Targeted Site Assessments will help to minimize the uncertainties surrounding actual or perceived contamination associated with a site, and encompass one or more of the following activities:

- 1) a screening assessment, including a background and historical investigation and site inspection;
- 2) a full site assessment, including sampling activities, to identify the types and concentrations of contaminants and the areas of contamination that should be cleaned up prior to reuse; and,
- 3) the establishment of cleanup options and cost estimates based on future uses and redevelopment plans.

Targeted Site Assessments will be conducted by environmental consultants currently under contract with EPA. Currently, this program does not provide funds to conduct cleanup or building demolition activities.

## Application Tips

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EPA’s selection process will focus on projects in which the project proponent has firm redevelopment plans and can demonstrate, through its application for assistance, a strong commitment to facilitating the redevelopment of the site after the Targeted Site Assessment is completed. Redevelopment can involve the creation of commercial, industrial, residential, recreational, or conservation uses. Projects that have financing available for the cleanup, or that offer other unique incentives for development (e.g., tax increment financing), will be given higher priority.

Brownfields Targeted  
Site Assessment Program  
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